

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, August 18, 1994

Published Since 1877

## Korean Southern Baptists: growing, praying, coping

TACOMA, Wash. (BP) — Like other large churches, First Church, Tacoma, Wash., has multiple services, a variety of ministries, and strong pastoral leadership.

But the Pacific Northwest's largest Southern Baptist church has one distinction from many its size: Most members are Korean.

It is one of 835 Korean congregations in the Southern Baptist Convention. That number

continues to grow, as 73 Korean starts were made last year, according to the Home Mission Board's language church extension division.

"The Korean Southern Baptist is the fastest-growing ethnic group within the Southern Baptist Convention," said Daniel Moon, HMB assistant director for language church extension.

More than 700 Korean Southern Baptist congregations have been organized in the past 20

years, he said, citing immigration as an aid to growth.

"Whether they (immigrants) are Christian or not, the church plays a very dynamic function in helping a new Korean immigrant to resettle and to provide guides for them for jobs and information that is essential for them to adjust," Moon said.

Like their Anglo counterparts, Korean Southern Baptists have a high respect for the Bible and are deeply involved in evangelism and missions, Moon said.

Last year, Korean congregations contributed almost \$1 million to the Cooperative Program and more than \$2 million in total missions giving, according to HMB statistics.

Through culture and custom, however, Korean Christians have some distinctions.

Korean Christians developed intensive prayer lives through such pressures as Japanese occupation, the Korean Conflict, and

immigration struggles. Like many other Korean churches, First Church in Tacoma hosts weekday morning prayer meetings.

About 100 members attend each morning before work. Some visit briefly after the sanctuary doors are unlocked at 4:30 a.m. Others stay through the 6 a.m. service, when pastor Chang Sun Moon leads the congregation in hymns, prayer requests, and a five-minute message.

## Owens: Worship versus entertainment

By Sarah Zimmerman

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — What many churches call "worship" is often "evangelical entertainment" and not a response to a holy God, said the Home Mission Board's associate director of prayer and spiritual awakening.

"Worship has become a cover word for services," Ron Owens said during a home missions conference at the Glorieta Conference Center. "We sing about God, we talk about what God is doing, but we do not spend time in awe of who he is."

"Some people say worship should be a happy time. I'm not against celebration, being joyous in the Lord or enthusiasm. I am against calling this worship."

Because worship focuses on God's holiness, many people experience deep conviction, Owens said. "Worship demands a moral change in response to Holy God."

Conviction, however, makes unbelievers and carnal Christians uneasy, and churches have adapt-

ed their services so outsiders can be comfortable, Owens said. "We want dead people to enjoy themselves."

"Worship can never be seeker-friendly. Worship is for God alone, not a bait to catch an unsuspecting sinner."

Many church services are designed for the person who expects to get something out of it rather than for God, Owens said.

"How many people would come to church today (if their only motivation) was that they love God so much they want to get together with other believers and worship him? Who is supposed to get something out of worship? God."

Another factor contributing to a lack of worship is that "the holy has become common. We bring God down to our level and have no problem being chummy with him," Owens said.

"If our view of God is anything other than his self-revelation through his Word, then the god we

worship is one of our own making," Owens said.

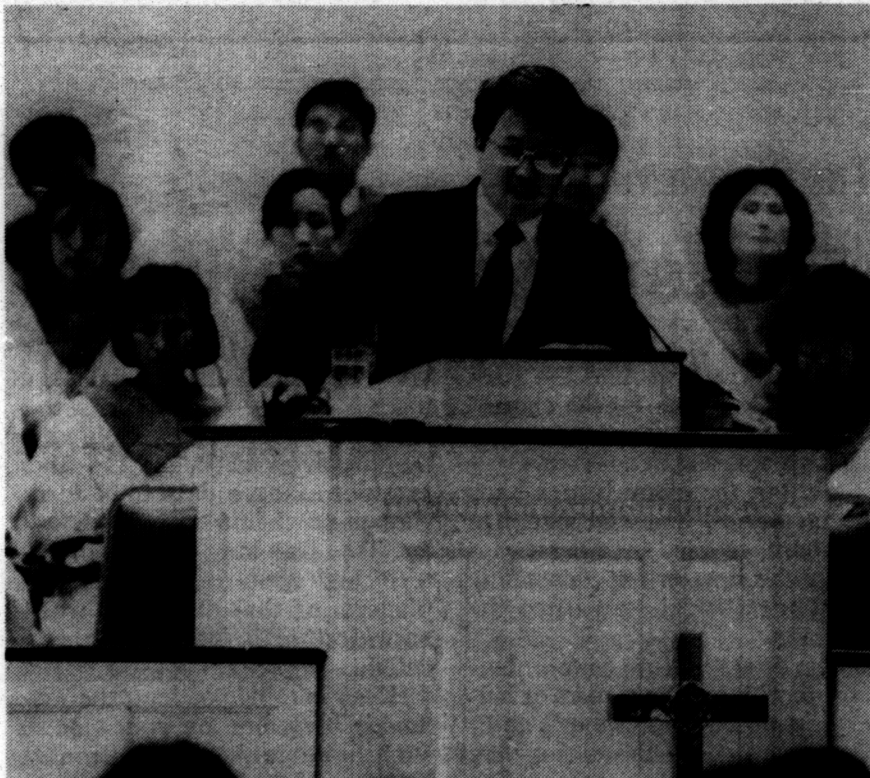
Worship is a humbling experience that results in changed priorities, Owens said.

"If we knew him the way he intends, there would be much more stooping and less strutting," he said. "Until the holy becomes holy again, we'll keep on arguing and debating peripheral issues."

Worship service leaders need to lead the congregation to meet God, Owens said. Services should flow easily from part to part, with a reason for everything that happens. Owens suggested churches welcome guests at the start of a service so it does not interrupt worship. He also suggested including the offering in the service as an act of worship.

Music during church services is often chosen to entertain or affect the congregation rather than affect God, Owens said. "There is no place for performing or using God for entertainment."

Zimmerman writes for HMB.



**KOREAN SOUTHERN BAPTISTS** — Pastor Daniel Lee preaches at the predominantly Korean Global Mission Church in Silver Springs, Md. With more than 1,000 members, it is the largest church in the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware. Korean Southern Baptists comprise 835 congregations in the Southern Baptist Convention. That number continues to grow, as 73 Korean starts were made last year. (HMB photo courtesy of MissionsUSA magazine)

### Bells peal in Vietnam

He fought in Vietnam to win a war, and now he's back to fight a more important battle. Bob Bell and his wife Suzanne are teaching English in Thai Nguyen City under the sponsorship of Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist aid organization. Communist Vietnam doesn't allow missionaries, but English teachers and development workers are welcomed. The Bells and their two young sons live in a four-room apartment at Agricultural University No. 3, north of Hanoi. Bob, a U.S. Navy Seabee during the Vietnam War, left a promising job as prison chaplain in Missouri, and Suzanne gave up her career as an attorney specializing in insurance law and now home-schools their children. Four times each week, Bob instructs as many as three dozen students on the basics of conversational English. While the Bells must avoid "missionary work," they live their Christian faith every day as a witness in the officially-atheist country. Electricity fades and surges, and the tropical heat can be withering. The Bells say it's all part of being pioneers.

### Needed: Prison ministries

Tom Turner and Al Peratt don't have much in common, except their desire to reach for Christ an often-ignored segment of America's population. "If we looked at the prison population as a group of people living in another country who had never heard the gospel, we would be summoning our forces to tell them about Jesus," said Turner, prison ministries coordinator at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. Al Peratt's passion for prison ministry is perfectly understandable — he's been there. "I was... a Baptist boy gone wrong," he said. He ran with motorcycle gangs and smuggled dope, but two stints in state prisons persuaded him to return to his roots. Until he completes his parole, Peratt is not allowed into penitentiaries. He does manage, however, to work with local jail inmates both during and after their incarceration. Turner said he dreams of the day when churches and state Baptist conventions have "regular slots" in their organizations for prison programs. "God is at work (in prisons) and we are to join him at what he is doing."

### Looking Back...

#### 10 years ago

Highland Church, Laurel, stages a Starlight citywide crusade that includes pro quarterback Terry Bradshaw, humorist Jerry Clower, former Miss America Cheryl Prewitt Blackwood, and Elvis step-brother Rick Stanley.

#### 20 years ago

R.G. McCorkle of Grenada marks his 64th year as a subscriber to *The Baptist Record*. McCorkle, a bachelor in his 80s, still reads the newspaper every week without eyeglasses — but admits a magnifying glass does help occasionally.

#### 50 years ago

The 1843 organizational minutes of First Church, Canton, are still in a "splendid" state after being hidden in the country during the Civil War. The records reveal that black slaves were charter church members along with white residents.



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

## Anything holy about planning?

Our churches are in the people-reaching business. The idea is to reach people with the power of the gospel and see it become operative in their lives.

We do well to know all we can about the people we are trying to serve. What hobbies do they have? How do they spend their leisure time? How should we shape our programs and buildings to be more effective?

Household composition is in constant change. For instance, in 1970 13% of all family groups with children were maintained by a single parent. By 1993, this number had grown to 30%.

Steve Rawlings, author of *Household and Family Characteristics*, says "the tremendous increase in single-parent families has had a major impact on the day-to-day life experiences of children, parents, and society at large. These changes have major implications for the well-being of children, the demand for daycare, and the special pressures placed on institutions such as schools."

And, we may add, institutions such as churches and Sunday Schools.

Seventy-five percent of all single parents have either never been married, or are currently divorced. Single-mother families outnumber single-father families by six to one.

The *National Law Journal* has reported that single parent/family breakdown accounts for 26% of all the cases heard by judges in juvenile delin-

quency cases.

Drugs accounted for 21% of all cases, according to the *Journal's* poll of 250 judges.

The changing patterns of society cannot be ignored by the church. There are also those who see evangelism as being holy, but demography and sociology as less than holy.

Gene Mims, in *Kingdom Principles for Church Growth*, says "Church growth is something the Lord does. Only God saves persons and only God can grow churches."

"He invites you to join him in his work. However, we do need to plan. Planning for church growth does not indicate a lack of faith."

Study the commands of Christ in sending out the 70 disciples, and you see planning.

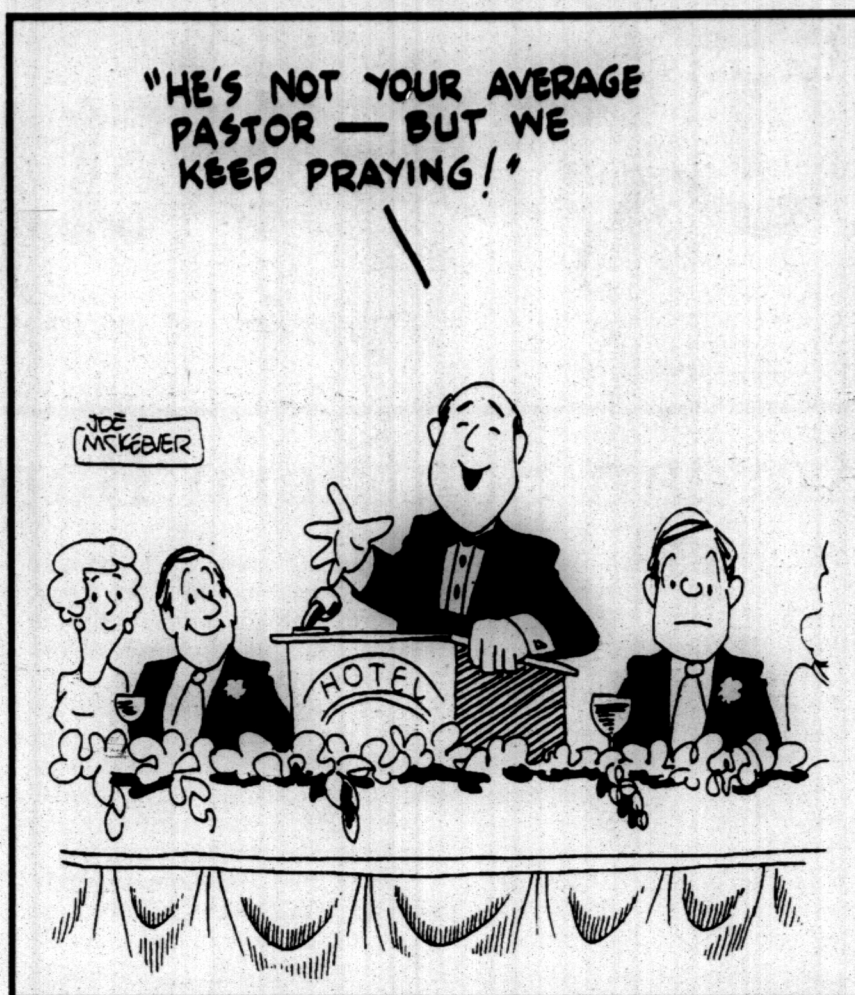
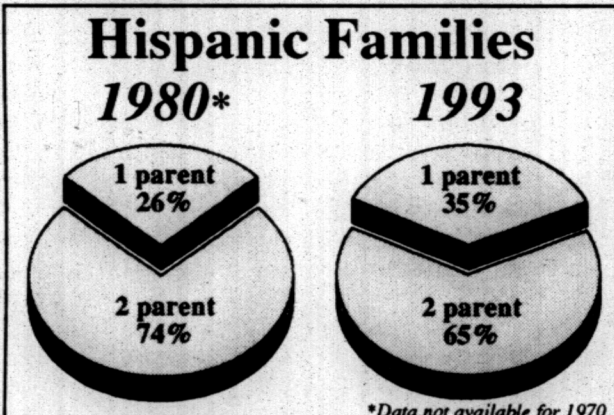
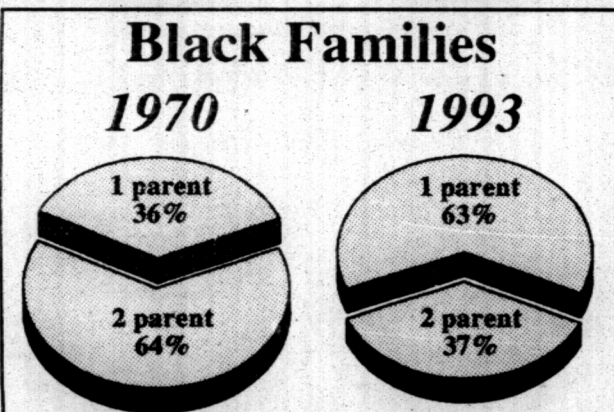
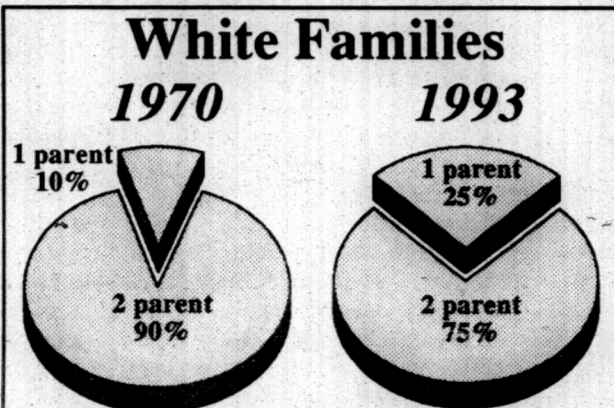
There was planning in the feeding of the 5,000, even in the seating arrangement. Good planning is helpful in carrying out the Great Commission.

The information in the charts below is available for your church from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board offers a "Discovery Weekend" that can assist your church in defining the mission, studying the field, and planning a strategy to reach the people.

Good planning under the leadership of the Holy Spirit is essential in people-reaching.

Where there is no vision the people are soon scattered.



## THE FRAGMENTS

## Pasteurized pastimes

Overheard at a house-warming: "All that space around the fireplace and no place for the churn." The place for the churn today is in the museums and flea markets.

Ah, but the churn brings back the memories. You can visualize the churn, covered by a linen napkin, to the right or left (depending on your political stance) of the fireplace.

The bright yellow butter... buttermilk with worthy chunks of butter floating around... Mom's ability to churn so much quicker than any of the children... the tough duty of dishwashing when you had the churn, the lid, the dasher, and several butter-coated dishes... and perhaps worst of all, living with the expression, "And that's when

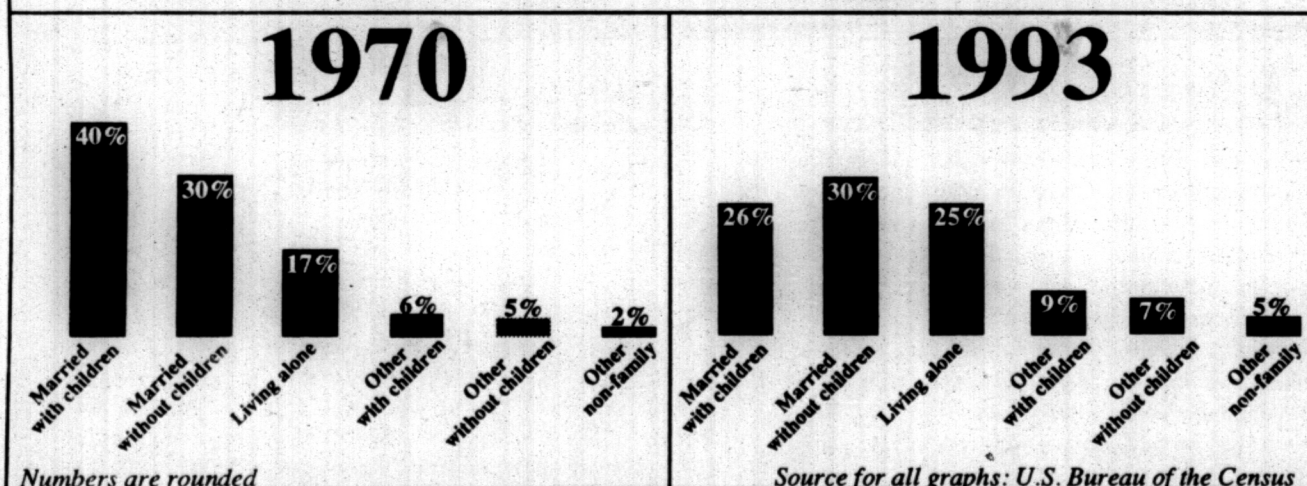
the cat fell in the churn." You knew then a real disaster had taken place.

Forget not the butter mold with the engraved eagle and the final product... some delicious Jerry Clower-proclaimed cow-salve butter. This was long before cholesterol had been discovered. The biscuits of that day were well-anointed with the dairy queen delight.

Keep in mind you have the wisdom of Solomon on your side in such homogenized elocation of Proverbs 30:33: "Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood; so the forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife."

— GH

## Household Composition



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WORLD CONGRESS  
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# Planning committee axes Wed. evening from '94 convention

By Tim Nicholas

The 1994 Mississippi Baptist Convention program has emerged from planning stages slimmer and trimmer. In fact, this year's annual business meeting of Southern Baptists in the state has dropped from six to five sessions.

The program begins in the sanctuary of First Church, Jackson at 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1, and concludes at 3:55 p.m. the following afternoon.

Order of Business Committee chairman Jimmy Porter, pastor of First Church, McComb, said the reason for omitting the final session on Wednesday evening was "poor attendance."

"We felt we were trying to do something the people did not want. Our desire is to try to do the business of the convention when the vast majority of the people were there. That's just being a good steward," said Porter.

Last year's convention saw only a couple of hundred people in the sanctuary for the final session.

"It's not inspiration," said Porter, "it's embarrassing."

Porter said there has always been a "mass exodus" after the morning session on Wednesday.

He said, "Ideally, we'd like to

get to the point where we could conclude Wednesday at noon."

Presently, the Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Conference, authorized by the convention itself several years ago, begins on the Monday afternoon before the convention and concludes that evening.

A Lay Missions Conference, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), begins Monday afternoon and ends with a banquet that evening.

Theme of the Mississippi Baptist Convention meeting will be "Renew a Right Spirit."

Porter said that in dealing with the renewal theme, "Probably, there's no better speaker today than Henry Blackaby."

Blackaby, director of prayer and spiritual awakening at the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board in Atlanta and a designer of the Experiencing God materials, will speak during several sessions of the convention.

In addition to the Tuesday afternoon sermon, Blackaby will deliver the Bible Treasure messages this year. These 25 minute devotionals are given during each of the four daytime sessions.

Other speakers include Rex

Yancey, pastor of First Church, Pascagoula, delivering the convention president's address; Bill Causey, MBCB executive director-treasurer, leading in the convention board emphasis; and Gordon Sansing, pastor of First Church, Vicksburg, preaching the convention sermon.

Denton Lotz, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, will give the closing message.

Business includes election of officers. Yancey is eligible for a second one-year term as president. Other business will be consideration of a Cooperative Program budget for 1995 and any resolu-

tions messengers present.

Order of Business Committee members are Mickey Dalrymple, Columbus; Fred Womack, Bay St. Louis; Chuck Hampton, Florence; Ken Anderson, Saltillo; and Joan Tyler, Collins.

Nicholas is director, MBCB Office of Communication.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

## The Baptist Record

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### WMU disaster relief vols home from Albany, Ga.

By Tim Nicholas

A total of 14 members of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) traveled to Albany, Ga., last week for four days of disaster relief work in the wake of severe flooding.

This was the first activation of the WMU unit apart from the Brotherhood Department's participation. WMU and Brotherhood disaster task force members worked together in the Delta ice storm this past winter.

The women worked in child-care and recovery services. Stationed at the Heritage House Hotel in Albany, the women worked in the Red Cross center there, taking care of children while their parents waited for their applications for aid to be processed, which took up to two hours.

While some worked in child care, others traveled to homes in the area for cleanup. The "mudding out" of homes was still going on four weeks after the flood waters of the Flint River had receded.

The volunteers worked from 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. during the four days of child care, and returned to Mississippi when the Red Cross began shutting down the center. They cared for 126 children in the first two days. The numbers lessened after that.

Jan Cossitt, WMU disaster relief coordinator, called the event a "great learning experience."

"We know what kind of equipment and supplies we'll need for the next activation," she said.

Besides Cossitt, others traveling to Albany were Kaye Cassibry, Mississippi WMU GA consultant; Donna Swartz and Ellen Johns of Magee; Margaret Deer and Yvonne Martin of Tylertown; Martha Kate Phillips of Calhoun City; Laura Carpenter, an Acteen from Grenada; Heather Booth, Mississippi College student from Amory; Michelle Ivy, MC student from Clinton; Dixie Kennedy of

Oma; Pat Sullivan of Mt. Olive; and Mae Hardin and her husband Joe from Winona.

Cossitt said Mississippi WMU members can help. There is a need for children's and infants' kits.

She said those wanting details on the kits, or wanting to participate in disaster relief, should call her through the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board toll free number at 1-800-748-1651.

### 24 positions eliminated from BSSB's teaching, reaching division staff

NASHVILLE (BP) — Twenty-four positions in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Bible teaching-reaching division position have been deleted as part of ongoing restructuring of the church growth group.

The decisions followed a July 18 announcement that reducing operating expenses and reordering priorities would require the elimination of 24-30 positions from the 224 jobs in the division.

Billie Pate, associate division director, said the restructuring resulted in redesign of a number of positions and minor organizational changes.

The net reduction included two management, 15 professional, and seven support staff jobs. Eight of the deleted positions were vacant.

Nine affected employees will take early retirement, two will transfer to other positions in the church growth group, and the remainder will receive severance pay based on years of service along with outplacement assistance.

Among those taking early retirement are Art Burcham, director of the general leadership department, a 26-year employee; Tom Lee, an 18-year employee and growth consultant; James Berthelot, lead adult consultant, 14 years; and Ruth Ann Hill, adult consultant, 10 years.

The retirements of two other managers were announced in July.

Mike Fink, coordinator of biblical studies development in the

ministry-development coordination department, and Morlee Maynard, manager of the preschool ministry development section, will transfer to positions in the church growth group coordination section.

Fink will become curriculum, editorial, and resource coordination specialist while Maynard will assume responsibility for ministry/systems coordination.

Pate said the staff reductions are part of evaluations in process in five areas. They are: re-evaluating work and identifying priorities including products, allocating resources to priorities, refining the organization to focus on priorities, clarifying and moving accountability lower into the organization, and focusing attention on church and people needs in a more efficient manner.

The restructuring, BSSB President James T. Draper Jr. said, was initiated by a strategy planning process which began in the fall of 1991, shortly after his arrival at the board.

Many of the layoffs have been accomplished by a better-than-expected response to the offer of early retirement packages.

Draper said, "We never set out to reduce the number of employees by any particular number. We said, 'Let's find out how we can function the best. What can we do to be in the very best possible posture to do the job as economically as we can and keep the prices down for Southern Baptists?'"



Ellen Johns of Magee was one of 14 Mississippi WMU members who traveled to Albany, Ga., last week for disaster relief work in child-care and recovery services.



Dixie Kennedy of Oma and Margaret Deer of Tylertown did kitchen cleanup in a neighborhood where homes had been flooded up to four weeks earlier. (Photos by Tim Nicholas)





## New Church Music officers

The 1994-95 officers for the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Conference are, left to right: Slater Murphy, vice president; Jim Keyser, president; Major McDaniel, president-elect; and Michael Allen, secretary/treasurer.

## HMB refugee office faces crisis with Haitian exodus

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Of the approximately 1,000 Haitians who leave their homeland in boats each day, Southern Baptists end up being directly responsible for an average of 60 of them.

According to Bill Fulkerson, director of the Home Mission Board's refugee office, it is a responsibility that is reaching crisis level.

Fulkerson recently shared information about Southern Baptists' refugee work with members and leaders of Woman's Missionary Union.

"It's a chronic state that might become acute," Fulkerson said. "The refugee situation is not getting any better. In fact, it's getting worse."

The United Nations has identified more than 19 million refugees worldwide — a number which has increased by 5 million in the last five years. From the time a refugee is identified as such by the U.N., it can take anywhere from two months to 10 years to be resettled with a sponsor.

A political refugee, as defined by the U.S. State Department, is "a person from any nation fleeing because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion."

The HMB's refugee office, working in cooperation with government-contracted refugee resettlement services in the country, receives refugee cases continually. Those cases can be anything from an individual to a family of six or seven.

Two days is all the time given to the HMB to resettle Haitian refugees before their case is passed to another resettlement service.

"For every case we can't resettle, we are denied a case in the future," Fulkerson said. "We very seldom have to return a case because we don't want to lose the

future opportunity."

More refugee sponsors are needed to adequately handle the influx of refugees, he said. The HMB could use 50 more churches willing to be refugee sponsors.

The HMB asks the entire church to be sponsor and to shoulder the responsibility — financial, emotional, physical, and spiritual.

"We don't know what will happen in Haiti, but we do know that hundreds of Haitians are coming into our country," Fulkerson said. "Recently there were five Baptist families who came over on boats."

Providing for the needs of refugees hasn't been a one-way street. Haitian refugees have been directly responsible for increasing the number of Southern Baptist Haitian congregations.

Southern Baptists have 68 Haitian churches. All but two or three can be directly attributed to Haitian refugees, Fulkerson said. "Twenty congregations were started last year. All from refugees."

For more information on refugee resettlement, contact the Southern Baptist Refugee Resettlement Office, 1350 Spring NW, Atlanta, GA 30367 or (404) 898-7395.

## Medical Center will offer free estate planning info

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center (MBMC) will offer a free estate planning seminar on Sept. 1 at 3 p.m. The seminar, to be held at the Healthcaring Center for Women, will include information on bypassing capital gains taxes, increasing current income, reducing current income taxes, reducing federal estate taxes, and conserving estate assets.

A panel will consist of David

## Analysis...

# CBF/denomination question pits tradition against trend

By Dave Couric

NASHVILLE (BP) — The question stirs debate and strong emotion at times despite how simply it's phrased: Is the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship a denomination?

The issue may not be settled as yet, but there are several indicators that the CBF is at least well on its way to denominational status, according to **Brandon native Tom Nettles** of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School near Chicago.

"Whether or not they perceive themselves as a denomination, they certainly are going to have the option very soon of engaging in all the different things a denomination sees itself as doing," said Nettles, chairman of the Church History Department and former Southwestern Seminary professor.

Nettles cited education, missions, publishing, and news as examples of denominational activities in which the CBF already is engaged.

"It's up to them to define whether they want to become a denomination," Nettles said. "It's still up in the air whether they want to. The things that are going to make them determine that will be just how much support they will have, what kind of theological unity they can maintain, and how effective these alternate agencies will actually be."

It remains to be seen, Nettles added, whether the Southern Baptist Convention's official rejection of CBF funds will have a negative or positive effect on the latter's supporters.

Baptist Press recently made an executive decision to officially refer to the CBF as a "denomination" in news releases. That action elicited a sharp response from Cecil Sherman, CBF coordinator, who sent a memo to Baptist state paper editors denying the CBF is a denomination. The memo secondarily objected to implications concerning CBF's views on abortion, Scripture, homosexuality, and the virgin birth.

In his primary concern, Sherman reacted specifically against a description of the CBF as "breakaway moderates launching a new denomination" in a Baptist Press report on the SBC's decision in

June to move ahead without CBF funds.

"(It) is not a statement of fact; it is opinion," Sherman wrote. "Furthermore, it is not true. The Fellowship has worked hard to remain within the SBC." Admitting the SBC's rejection of CBF funds "certainly makes that task harder," Sherman said the SBC action may have been intended "to drive the CBF into becoming what they claim we are" — a denomination.

Noting the CBF previously had

**"... We are neither 'breakaway moderates,' nor have we made any efforts to 'launch a new denomination.'"**

**— Cecil Sherman, CBF coordinator**

voted in its annual session not to withdraw funds from some SBC seminaries, Sherman said, "The truth is that we are neither 'breakaway moderates,' nor have we made any efforts to 'launch a new denomination.'"

"A denomination within the (SBC) denomination" is the way its own western coordinator, Bill Bruster, described the CBF in a Baptist Press report on the recent Mexican Baptist Convention of Texas meeting in San Antonio. Bruster was there to introduce the CBF as an alternative for missions giving by Hispanic churches. He affirmed the CBF wants to have some kind of official connection with Southern Baptists.

Another possibility that has been considered is the CBF is more like a "society," or para-church organization, than a denomination. The fact the CBF has constituent churches (and individuals), though, seems to place it in a broader category than a society, which traditionally has had

## Short Creek Church marks 75th year

Short Creek Church, Yazoo City, will celebrate its 75th anniversary with a homecoming on Aug. 28, beginning at 10 a.m.

Guest speaker for the morning worship will be Bob Taylor of Sumter, S.C. Burrus Jones Jr. of Sylva, N.C. will be the guest singer. May Gary and Kathleen Bloom will provide piano and organ music, respectively.

Following the morning service, there will be a dinner in the fellowship hall at noon. There will be no evening service, but at 1:30 there will be a time of testimonies and worship.

Norris Ables is pastor.

a narrower focus, such as on missions alone — and was common in the SBC before the Cooperative Program was established in 1925.

Bill Leonard, a professor in the religion and philosophy department at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., said he, for one, thinks asking if the CBF is a denomination is "not the right question," or at least "not the most pressing question. (The CBF) may have denominational-like qualities," he said, "but fewer and fewer religious Americans think of their primary identity in terms of denomination."

Leonard offered an example of how people these days move from one region to another and often join a different denomination in a new place.

So the question of CBF being a denomination is "less relevant" because it presupposes this change in denominational life across America isn't taking place.

Leonard asserted it isn't a matter of whether the "old denominational forms and structures" of the SBC will continue into the 21st century. "They won't — they aren't," he insisted.

Leonard's sociological assessment suggests the choice for Baptist churches is now between the traditional SBC Cooperative Program and a return to the older society method, represented by the CBF. The cooperative method is the collective way of financing the business of Southern Baptists. The society method is a more direct or designated, individual way of supporting specific causes.

Couric is a free-lance writer in Dallas.

## Sessions set for kids' choir leader training

Leadership training for the 1994 Area Preschool/Children's Choirs will begin Aug. 20. A total of six sessions throughout the state will be conducted. They are: Aug. 20, First Church, Brandon, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Aug. 25, First Church, Greenwood, and Highland Church, Meridian, 6-9:30 p.m.; Aug. 27, Hernando Church, Hernando, and Temple Church, Hattiesburg, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; and Sept. 10, Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fee for each session will be \$4 per person, payable at the door. The sessions will feature **The New Music Leader** and other literature changes.

Leadership training for children's choirs is sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. For more information, contact that department at (601) 968-3800.



# Violent abortion protest hurts pro-life efforts, experts say

(ABP) — Paul Hill, the former Presbyterian minister charged with the July 29 murders of a doctor and his escort outside a Pensacola, Fla., abortion clinic, represents a violent fringe that is dragging down the entire anti-abortion movement, say three pro-life Southern Baptists.

"It is my personal belief that the pro-life movement has been very heavily harmed by those who claim to be pro-life but do not

even affirm by their actions the sanctity of human life," said Paul Jones, executive director of the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Jones said he knows "a number of persons" who privately embrace a pro-life position but reject the contemporary pro-life movement because they "have lumped the person who would kill in the name of being pro-life with

those who would simply work for legislation or would take a stand against abortion in some public arena."

Each time there has been a publicized killing or wounding by an abortion protestor, "it has made our task more difficult," Jones said. "People don't want to be identified with such inconsistent, radical, un-Christian attitudes and actions."

"What was done in Pensacola is wrong both morally and tactically," said David Gushee, professor of Christian ethics at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. "It hurts the cause of those who are committed to changing where we are in this country related to abortion."

"When you engage in violence, random acts of terror, and so on, you lose public sympathy," Gushee said. The American civil-rights movement in the 1960s faced a similar situation when its proponents were divided over the nonviolent protest advocated by Martin Luther King and the more radical approach of Malcolm X and the Black Panthers who were willing to employ violence, Gushee said.

"In our society, if a movement for social change wants to have any hope for making change, it has to be the kind of nonviolent, peaceful movement that is in touch with basic American values," Gushee said.

## 8 ACTS, FamilyNet affiliates highlighted in "Night of Honors"

FORT WORTH (BP) — Five ACTS (American Christian Television Service) affiliates, including one in Mississippi, and three FamilyNet affiliates received awards at the "Night of Honors" telecast on ACTS and FamilyNet Aug. 5.

ACTS is the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission cable television service that reaches into more than 20 million homes. FamilyNet is its broadcast television service that reaches into more than 50 million homes.

Channel 23 of Jackson, and Channel 34/48 of Pensacola, Fla., tied for top honors in the special program category. "Carols by Candlelight" was a Christmas special presented by Jackson's First Church. Pam Warren was technical director.

Other ACTS award recipients were Channel 32 of Monticello, Ind., in the commercial or spot announcement category; Channel 7 of Monroe, La., in the short feature category; and Channel 27 of Little Rock, Ark., in the program

series category.

In addition, ACTS of Fort Smith, Ark., received the "Affiliate of the Year" award.

FamilyNet award recipients were CFNT K20DN of Wichita Falls, Texas, in the commercial or spot announcement category; KYFC TV-50 of Shawnee Mission, Kan., in both the short feature and program series categories; and WTLW-LIMA of Lima, Ohio, in the special program category.

Fort Worth dentist Richard Neill was among the recipients presented a "Covenant" award by ACTS during the telecast.

"Covenant" is a movement of people who are supporting the Radio and Television Commission effort to combat pornography and violence in media with Christian family values programming.

Neill is author of a new book titled, *Taking On Donahue and TV Morality*. It is the story of how one person can make a difference, and provides a detailed strategy for others to use in their efforts to clean up television. The book is co-written with Lela Gilbert and published by Questar.

On April 23, 1992, Neill was in the waiting room of his ophthalmologist waiting for a scheduled appointment. The television set there was turned to "Donahue," who was featuring a woman who claimed to have had sex with 2,759 men. The dentist noticed children in the room were watching the program with rapt attention.

He reacted by initiating a campaign to encourage advertisers, both local and national, to drop "Donahue." More than 200 did. The station carrying "Donahue" dropped the program from its schedule.

The book also details what a personal toll the lengthy, draining, expensive campaign took on Neill and his family.

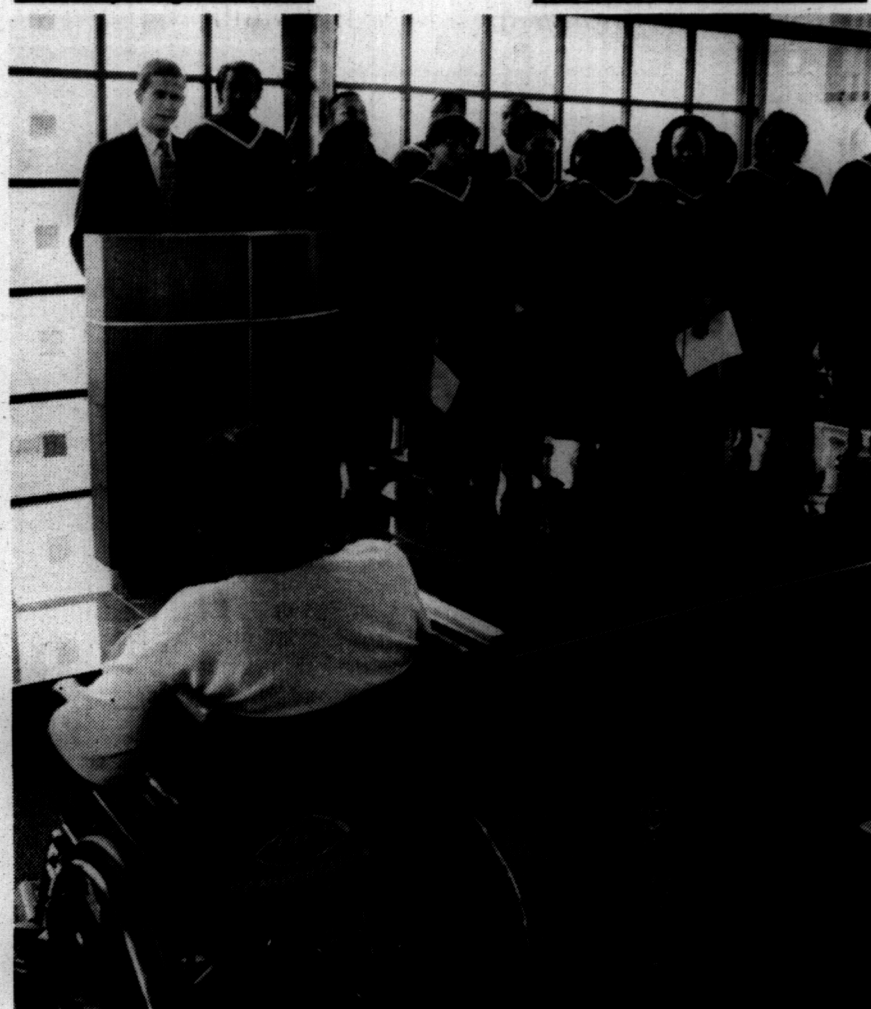
Other "Covenant" winners were Ken Wales, co-producer of the CBS series "Christy"; Ted Baehr, chief executive officer of the Christian Film and Television Commission in Atlanta; and Dallas ABC affiliate WFAA.



Pam Warren, representative from First Church, Jackson, proudly accepts a 1994 ACTS award for production of "Carols by Candlelight."

Thursday, August 18, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



## New hospital chapel

Baptist Memorial Hospital (BMH), Memphis, celebrated the opening of its new chapel July 20. Self Chapel was funded in large part by The Self Foundation. Members of the Self family have served as trustees for various agencies of the Baptist Memorial Health Care System (BMHCS) since 1920. The chapel seats about 50 people, and will house weekly worship services. Members of the hospital's Shades of Ebony choir sang at the opening ceremony; Stephen Reynolds (above, left), BMH president and chief executive officer, delivered a dedicatory address. BMHCS is jointly owned by the Baptist conventions of Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

## Ministries in gambling communities topic of fall Gulfshore conference

By William H. Perkins Jr.

company that operates child-care facilities for five casinos in Mississippi and Minnesota.

— ministry along the front lines, with Randy Cowling, director of Atlantic City Ministries in New Jersey.

— Gamblers Anonymous, with Gini Fellows, a certified addictions counselor and director of Recovery Resources in Biloxi.

— what Christians can expect from casinos, with Joe Giardino, public relations director of Grand Casino in Gulfport.

— law enforcement issues, with George Payne Jr., police chief in Gulfport.

— pastoring in a gaming community, with Ed Deuschle, pastor of First Church in Bay St. Louis.

— benevolence needs, with Kiely Young, pastor of First Church in Gulfport.

— identifying the needs, with John and Linda Landrum of Chaplain to the Mississippi Beach ministry in Gulfport.

— how gambling changes a community, with Don Wilson, MCB director of missions extension and association administration.

Other speakers include Paul Jones, executive director of the Christian Action Commission of

Concerned groups and individuals from across the country will grapple with the spiritual and social upheavals of legalized gambling during a first-ever conference this fall at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in Pass Christian.

"Ministry in a Gaming Community" will be held Oct. 3-5 at the state Baptist assembly, which has been fighting a two-year battle against encroachment from the gambling industry along Mississippi's Gulf Coast.

The conference is sponsored by Gulf Coast Association, the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), and the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

The purpose of the conference is to help local churches and associations define the biblical mandate to minister in gaming communities; identify ministry opportunities; and gain a practical understanding of how to begin and sustain ministries in gaming communities.

A broad spectrum of issues and challenges posed by legalized gambling will be covered by experts in many fields, including:

— children's needs, with Julie Condon, vice-president of the

the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and Wallace Easley, a Christian businessman from Ocean Springs who will give his personal testimony on gambling addiction.

John Mourghia, director of The Potter's Ministries in Eureka Springs, Ark., will provide worship times. Bobby McClellan, minister of music at Pass Road Church in Gulfport, will provide music.

Van tours of casinos along the Mississippi coast will also be offered to participants.

The conference will begin with check-in at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 3, and end after an early lunch on Wednesday, Oct. 5.

Pre-registration is required. The conference is open to individuals and groups nationwide who are involved in gambling ministry and related issues.

Total cost for meals and room is \$86.20 per person with four persons to a room, or \$92.20 per person with two persons to a room. Some scholarships are available.

For more information or to pre-register, contact Gulf Coast Baptist Association, P.O. Box 2369, Gulfport, MS 39505. Telephone: (601) 832-4311.





A team of 32 volunteers, members of Parks and Calvary churches, Tallahatchie County, recently returned from an eight-day mission trip to south Texas and northern Mexico. The team helped conduct medical-dental clinics and Vacation Bible Schools in Matamoros, Mexico, and performed volunteer construction work on a Texas church.

## Parchman mission church reaches out in mission spirit

In 1990 Mississippi Baptists joined hands with Parks Church in Tallahatchie County in an effort to begin a mission church at Parchman to reach employees of the Mississippi State Penitentiary. In the last three years, the resulting mission church, Calvary, has received \$11,800 through the Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions.

Parks and Calvary congregations report the following landmarks in growth:

Attendance at Parks has nearly doubled. Offerings are up 50%, and Cooperative Program (CP) gifts increased by 2%.

Calvary will organize as a self-supporting church in September. It now has 42 members, most of whom were received by baptism. It currently gives 11% of its budget receipts to the CP.

The two congregations have teamed up for several mission projects. In 1993, Parks and Calvary assisted in re-opening a church (Brazil Church) which had previously been closed. After a year of missions ministry there, Brazil Church is now again self-supporting and shares a pastor with Webb Church, also in Tallahatchie.

In 1992-94, Parks and Calvary churches assisted Charleston's Faith Church by conducting mission Vacation Bible Schools and

helping with their building program.

In 1993, the two churches adopted a Hispanic congregation in San Juan, Texas. The Alfa & Omega Mission has been the recipient of volunteer construction efforts and outdoor evangelistic efforts conducted by teams from Calvary and Parks.

The two churches also began this year to contribute to the salary of a pastor in Russia, and are currently working to find a sister church in the former Soviet Union.

A recent eight-day mission trip by Parks and Calvary members to south Texas/northern Mexico yielded 17 professions of faith.

There, Jim Harmon of Parchman led volunteers in helping to replace a roof on a missions warehouse in Weslaco, Texas.

W.W. Anderson of Parchman led volunteers in conducting medical-dental clinics in six Mexican cities.

Jean Nichols of Cleveland led VBS work in Matamoros, Mexico; Joe Young of Charleston, Parks-Calvary pastor, coordinated the trip and was preacher and interpreter for the group. Young is a bivocational pastor who teaches Spanish at Charleston High School and Northwest Community College.

## Mississippian Colbert named to Endowment Development Council

DALLAS — Thomas W. Colbert, a bank executive and deacon at Forest Church, Forest, has been elected to the Endowment Development Council of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Sonny A. Adkins, pastor at Forest Church and vice chairman of Annuity Board trustees, suggested Colbert for membership.

Colbert is chairman of the

board for Farmers & Merchants Bank of Forest and Peoples Bank of Mississippi, Indianola.

The Endowment Development Council assists in raising funds to supplement inadequate retirement incomes of Southern Baptist ministers, missionaries, and their widows. The Board has raised \$6.87 million of an \$8.25 million goal in a three-year campaign called "A Time to Remember."

# Kentucky pastor Lovejoy dies during church's youth retreat

LOYALL, Ky. (BP) — "It isn't often that a church loses its pastor in the line of duty," said Glenn Durham, music minister at First Church, Loyall, Ky., referring to the death of Chuck Lovejoy.

Lovejoy, 50, died July 24 while accompanying the church's youths to a summer camp in Lynchburg, Va.

"Chuck had been feeling bad all week, but he insisted on going with the youth to camp," Durham said. Shortly after arriving at The Master's Inn youth camp, Lovejoy collapsed of an apparent heart attack. He regained consciousness long enough to talk to his wife and several others, including the paramedics. "We just kept praying for him and Susie," said Steve Delaney, a youth intern at the church.

Lovejoy was pronounced dead at Lynchburg General Hospital a few hours later.

"It took forever for them to give us the bad news," Delaney said. "That night we had to do a lot of work with the kids — counsel them — because they were real close to Chuck."

Delaney said the youth group, as well as the whole church, are still working through the loss of Lovejoy. "He really did touch a lot of people," Delaney said.

Don White, a member of the church who accompanied the youth group to camp, said, "When we arrived at the camp late Sunday afternoon, you could see Chuck's eyes light up with enthusiasm. He was always upbeat and positive."

Lovejoy had been the church's pastor for about one year. In a denomination known for ministers who are also tinkers, tailors, and candlestick makers, Lovejoy spent many years as a youth pastor, often volunteering at churches while selling insurance to sup-

port his family.

Roy Carlton, pastor of Crestview Church, Lakeland, Fla., and one of Lovejoy's former pastors, said Chuck never outgrew his love for youth.

"Even though Chuck was a pastor and 50 years old, he still wanted to be there with the youth group," Carlton said. "He was passionately committed to kids. It dominated him, and he just knew how to communicate with them."

Lovejoy had served as youth pastor at Harlan Church, near Loyall, Ky., and most recently as youth pastor at North Central Church, Gainesville, Fla.

He was featured on the cover of the June/July issue of SBCLife, where he explained how God had taught him patience in the process of evangelizing the people of Harlan County, Ky.

His survivors include his wife Susie and a son and a daughter.

## New Books from Broadman & Holman

**THE ANTIOCH EFFECT**, by Ken Hemphill. Eight characteristics of highly effective churches. A professional development book. 228 pages.

**THE EMPOWERED COMMUNICATOR**, by Calvin Miller. Seven keys to unlocking an audience. A professional development book. 218 pages.

**THE 12 ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR GREAT PREACHING**, by Wayne McDill. Exercises to help both recent seminary graduates and seasoned pastors identify skills that need improvement. A professional development book. 290 pages.

**EATING THE ELEPHANT**, by Thom S. Rainer. Bite-sized steps to achieve long-term growth in your church. A professional development book. 209 pages.

**INTRODUCING THE NEW TESTAMENT**, by Joe Blair. A resource for a self-guided study of the New Testament. 237 pages.

**Evangelism, A Concise History**, by John Mark Terry. A fascinating account of the human means God has used to communicate the good news from generation to generation. 210 pages.

**GOING... ONE ON ONE**, compiled by Harry M. Piland and Ronald K. Brown. A comprehensive guide for making personal visits. 319 pages.

**A SUMMARY OF CHRISTIAN HISTORY**, by Robert A. Baker, revised by John M. Landers. A classic for three decades becomes a classic all over again. 435 pages.

**GODS OF THIS AGE OR... GOD OF THE AGES?** by Carl F.H. Henry. Challenges educators, pastors, and other Christian professionals to be more aware of the differences in worldviews, to be able to give reasons for the

hope that is theirs, and to bring Christian principles to bear in education, law, politics, philosophy, the sciences, and literature and the arts. 323 pages.

**THE NEW AMERICAN COMMENTARY, DEUTERONOMY**, by Eugene H. Merrill. For the minister or Bible student who wants to understand and expound the Scriptures. 477 pages.

**THE NEW AMERICAN COMMENTARY, EZEKIEL**, by Lamar Eugene Cooper Sr. Sound scholarly methodology that reflects capable research in the original languages. 439 pages.

**51 GOOD THINGS TO DO WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE RIGHT ONE TO COME ALONG**, by Harold Ivan Smith. Singleness is not a sentence to be endured, but a precious and fulfilling season to be enjoyed. Here's how. 120 pages.

**GALATIANS, SAVED BY GRACE**, by Thomas Lea. Adult 1995 Winter Bible study. 127 pages.

**FIRST DAYS IN COLLEGE**, by Mary Harwell Saylor. 90 short devotions to start a college student on the right course. 191 pages.

**HOW TO CARE FOR THE WHOLE WORLD AND STILL TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**, by Peg Rankin. By putting your relationship with God first, you can gain the perspective that allows you to serve his world with energy, enthusiasm, and a thankful heart. 148 pages.

**TAKE FIVE, DEVOTIONS TO STRENGTHEN A MAN'S LIFE IN CHRIST**, by Robert Busha. Get solid Christian insights and encouragement in five minutes a day. 118 pages.

**TAKE FIVE, DEVOTIONS TO STRENGTHEN A MAN IN HIS WORK**, by Robert Busha.

Find Christian solutions to workplace dilemmas in five minutes a day. 117 pages.

**TAKE FIVE, DEVOTIONS TO STRENGTHEN A MAN'S RELATIONSHIPS**, by Robert Busha. Learn to be a better husband, father, and friend in five minutes a day. 119 pages.

**THE DARKNESS AMONG US**, by William C. Viser. A look at the sinister growth of the occult and how dangerously close it is to you. 247 pages.

**PARTNERS WITH GOD: BIBLE TRUTHS ABOUT GIVING**, by Bobby Eklund and Terry Austin. A biblically based study on the subject of every Christian's responsibility and privilege to be a partner with God. 143 pages.

**BASIC ACCOUNTING FOR CHURCHES**, by Jack A. Henry. The book that makes money management makes sense. 166 pages.

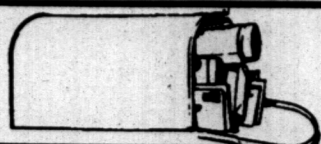
**THE CONFIDENT LEADER**, by Arlo Grenz. An excellent resource for courses on leadership and a stimulating guide for self-directed personal study. 343 pages.

**52 READY-TO-TEACH BIBLE STUDY LESSONS, BROADMAN COMMENTS 1994-95**, by Donald F. Ackland and Robert J. Dean. Based on the International Sunday School lessons, each plan includes these sections: studying the Bible, applying the Bible, teaching the Bible. 388 pages.

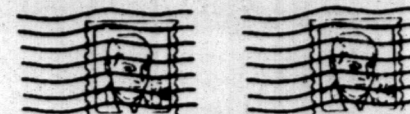
**HOW TO SAY YES! TO ALL THE BEST CHOICES (AND REALLY MEAN IT)**, by Susan Nally. Pre-teens can discover how the Bible reveals the right choices for them. 200 pages.

**HOW WILL THEY HEAR IF WE DON'T LISTEN?** by Ronald W. Johnson. The vital role of listening in preaching and personal evangelism. 194 pages.





# Letters to the editor



## Where's cooperation?

Editor:

Southern Baptists have a rich heritage. It is a heritage that has as part of its uniqueness a structure that is unlike any other denomination. The Southern Baptist Convention is not controlled by executives but rather by representatives from the local churches. The function of the executives in the Southern Baptist Convention is to serve and equip the local church as a single body of believers and collectively as a denomination. The executives, to my understanding,

are only to move in the direction and make major decisions that have been indicated by the majority vote from the local churches.

Recently, the Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans was earmarked to be closed in August of this year. This closure is cited as due to budget cuts; however, my attempts to ascertain why this center was closed as opposed to some other cut or closure have been met with silence. In my opinion, the closing of a center that has and is ministering to a large number of people in a needy area is a major decision. When did it

become "common" practice to close a center without even presenting and/or publishing that decision to those who support that ministry with their cooperative dollars? My fear is that if a decision such as this can be made without a published explanation and an opportunity to respond before the decision is made, Southern Baptists may wake up in the near future to find that our unique structure is no longer part of our heritage. Silence from those who support this ministry with cooperative giving can only make it easier for this to happen again.

Sandra George  
Clinton

No, his mother chose to carry that boy to full term and in so doing produced a president.

Wake up, Mr. President. Wake up, America. Let's put a stop to this ungodly nonsense and get on fire for God. God does not approve of what is taking place in our society today.

Almost every church across the land is preaching that Christ is soon to come. I agree with this. People have put the dollar ahead of morality and God. They have let convenience take the place of Christianity. Sin is rampant. Gambling in Mississippi has become a popular pastime. Popular or not, it is a sin. My Bible says sin will not go unpunished.

I have been called a fool, a Bible-quoting fundamentalist, and a lot more things. That doesn't hurt me. God knows where I stand.

Should I get a bullet through my brain for what I stand for, I can say with my last breath, "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith."

W.F. Loper  
Roxie

## Thanks for info

Editor:

This is a late "thanks" for running a notice in late April or around the first of May regarding a need for nurses to go on a medical/evangelism trip with Joe Craig and endorsed by the Foreign Mission Board. I went right to the phone. Craig answered and prayed for me and before I knew it, I was on my first airplane trip headed to Romania! Wow!

The Romanians were so gracious and the country was beautiful. Our teams worked really hard and God truly blessed us. I would not have gained such blessings and made so many new Christian friends had you not run this notice.

Bonnie Mason  
Ackerman

## In other words

Editor:

As I read your article in the June 23 issue entitled "A shift in emphasis," I noticed that in the article it was reported that at the SBC, "Also, perhaps the autonomy and freedom of Baptists were underscored anew." Not that there is anything wrong with these words, but I believe the use of such words like these and "democratic" and other politically minded words is becoming much too common in our churches and in the SBC.

We are using too many worldly terms in the SBC. We must realize that men do not run God's church, but God does. It is time that the SBC and many churches realize that we are truly a "Christology." Instead of using all of these worldly terms, we need to understand the church as a whole, in theological terms such as: "a body of believers" and "a priesthood of believers."

Unfortunately, the world has had such an impact on our churches today that it has greatly affected how we make many of our decisions in our churches and in the SBC. We tend to be using our own ideas, concepts, and feelings, when we should be following the will of God and once again placing Christ as the head of the church and the SBC. What we need are a few people who can lay hold of the power, mind, and will of God.

Remember, God has always worked through those who were and are closest to him. So let's quit doing and living as we want and as the world wants, and do as Christ wants. We need once again to surrender to the lordship of Jesus Christ in the SBC, so that we may once more feel the moving spirit of God in his churches.

Perry Perrett, pastor  
Cary Church  
Cary

## LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ed.D.  
Minister of Counseling  
First Church, Jackson

I had the unique privilege of being one of 52,000 men who attended the Promise Keepers Conference July 29-30 in Boulder, Colorado. That weekend was for me a truly life-changing event.

I believe a revival is taking place among this country's men. I witnessed men coming to know Christ as their personal savior; men recommitting themselves to a life of holiness; husbands renewing love for their wives; and fathers turning their hearts and eyes toward their children.

There is something exciting about being in a packed football stadium, praising the Lord and encouraging one another in the battles faced by Christians.

So much masculinity has been lost due to violence, sex, and body building. At the Boulder Promise Keepers Conference, men became strong servants empowered to beat the giants and overcome Satan's strongholds by making themselves "after God's own heart."

I realized that as men stand

shoulder to shoulder, we create an army equipped to defend our marriages and homes. We also send forth future recruits equipped for the battle before them — not as a conquering army but one that brings encouragement, strength, and power to a society looking for those things in all the wrong places.

I encourage all men to take a stand for God. Search God's heart for the necessary strength to travel the road ahead of us. Join with two or three other men to pray for each other, your marriages, your families, and your churches.

There may be a Promise Keepers Conference in Dallas this October, and there will definitely be one in Atlanta next summer. Every man would truly be blessed by attending.

For more information, call 1-800-456-7594 toll-free for a recorded message. Promise Keepers can also be reached at P.O. Box 1442, Arvada, CO 80001-1442. Telephone: (303) 421-2800.

## Offers Bible study

Editor:

With the revival of the new school year, a number of graduate students will be coming to Hattiesburg to attend USM and Carey. First Church, Hattiesburg, has begun a Sunday School class (the Genesis class) that aims to meet the specific needs of single graduate students and young professionals. We are involved in Bible study, fellowship, and ministry, and we seek to be a place for honesty, serious questions, faith, and growth. We meet at 622 Corinne St. (off of 2nd Ave.), on Sundays at 9:45; services are at 8:30 and 11.

If any of your readers know of graduate students who will be coming to Hattiesburg, we would love to have the opportunity to contact them. Please let us know their addresses and phone numbers. We may be contacted by phone at (601) 544-0100 or by writing FBC-Genesis Class, 510 Pine St., Hattiesburg, MS 39401.

Jeff Clark, associate pastor  
Gene and Lisa Fant, class directors  
First Church  
Hattiesburg

## Sin runs rampant

Editor:

I agree with Kevin Walker on the abortion issue. Abortion is nothing short of murder. It is the taking of a human life. A child is a heritage of God. He did not intend for them to be destroyed just for convenience sake.

Just suppose (President) Clinton's mother had taken the route that Clinton is trying to get federal funds for? Where would he be?

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

<b>RESERVE BY SEPT. 1 &amp; SAVE</b> <b>WONDERS OF HOLY LAND &amp; EGYPT</b> Feb. 21-Mar. 3 escorted by David Ray. DELUXE & no hotel-hopping.		<b>JUST THE RIGHT TRIP FOR YOUR CHURCH GROUP</b> <b>CHRISTMAS AT DOLLYWOOD — 4 days</b> - Many shows, festivities. \$199. <b>BILTMORE ESTATE CHRISTMAS — 4 days</b> - Multiple features. \$190. <b>MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME CHRISTMAS — 4 days</b> - Candlelight Tour, more. \$185. <b>OPRYLAND HOTEL ULTIMATE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS — 3 days</b> - Luxury hotel - Galaxy of features. \$299. <b>CHRISTMAS IN COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG — 5 days</b> - Many highlights. \$198. <b>CALLAWAY GARDENS FANTASY OF LIGHTS — 3 days</b> of holiday wonderland. \$232.	
<b>TREASURES OF TURKEY &amp; APOSTLE PAUL</b> Mar. 23-Apr. 4 — DELUXE - Includes sites of PAUL'S JOURNEY & CHURCHES OF REVELATION. Escorted by David Ray.		<b>CHARTER BUSES — FEW DAYS, FEW WEEKS ... 17, 25, 46 &amp; LUXURY 47 &amp; 55 SEATERS ... FREE &amp; LOWEST QUOTES</b> REQUEST FREE TOUR & TRAVEL UPDATE	
<b>MORE WORRY-FREE ESCORTED TOURS</b> <b>PHANTOM OF THE OPERA — Oct. 21-23</b> in Atlanta. \$175. <b>SAN ANTONIO - BIG BEND NAT'L PARK &amp; CARLSBAD CAVERNS — Oct. 22-29.</b> Autumn colors, too. \$619. <b>FLORIDA-KEY WEST &amp; DISNEY WORLD — Oct. 29-Nov. 6.</b> \$649.		<b>FREE BROCHURES — RESERVATIONS — UPDATE</b> <b>THE TRAVEL CLUB</b> (601) 362-0045 / 1-800-841-8991 - JACKSON, MS	
GET 8 OTHERS & GO HALF-PRICE		GET 16 OTHERS & GO FREE	

## Choctaw/Webster DOM Gordon sets retirement

Charles Gordon, director of missions (DOM) for the Choctaw and Webster associations, has announced his retirement, effective Aug. 31.

During his tenure as DOM, a new building was constructed to house Webster Association, a New Orleans Seminary extension center was established, two programs of simultaneous revivals were held with cooperative volunteer efforts between Choctaw/Webster and Colorado churches, and a black mission church was started in the

Eupora area.

Gordon is a graduate of William Carey College. He is also a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He pastored churches in Mississippi and Alabama before he and his wife Ina were appointed as home missionaries to the Pennsylvania/New Jersey Baptist Convention in 1977.

They plan to return to the Laurel area in September, after which he will be available for interim, supply, and revival work. Gordon may be contacted at Magnolia Ministries/Missions, 224 Magnolia Rd., Laurel, MS 39440.

There will be a reception for the Gordons at the Ackerman Church, Aug. 28 from 2-4 p.m.



## Smell something funny? Could be serious.

A natural gas leak is a serious matter. If you detect one, contact MVG or your local police or fire department immediately.

**Mississippi Valley Gas Company**  
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## Names in the News

Joel A. Holloway of Petal has published a book about his father:

**T. Holloway, His Life and Ministry.** The book tells the story of the elder Holloway's half-century of ministry as a rural Southern Baptist preacher. For more information, write 214 Sun Circle, Petal, MS 39465-3414.

**LIBERTY, Mo. (BP) — W. Christian Sizemore** has been elected president of William Jewell College. The action occurred July 15 in a special meeting of the 18-member board of trustees on the college campus in Liberty, Mo. Sizemore was elected without opposition although one trustee abstained from voting and one was absent.

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Harry L. "Hal" Poe**, an evangelism professor at Southern Seminary from 1988-91, has returned to the Louisville, Ky., school. Poe and his wife Mary Anne, former director of student development at Southern Seminary, are the parents of two daughters.

**First Church, Polkville**, observed "Lester Beatty Appreciation Day," Aug. 7. Beatty was honored for several occasions of service as interim music director. The church presented Beatty a plaque and gift certificate and hosted a luncheon and music pro-

gram in his honor.

**James C. "Jim" Turcotte**, a vice-president at Dallas Baptist University, has been named Director of Admissions at Mississippi College (MC). He is a graduate of Clinton High School and MC, where he served as president of the student body and was a member of the Choctaw football team.



**James Sclater**, music professor at Mississippi College, has been chosen for the second time to receive the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) Award for the 1994-95 school year, in recognition of his original compositions and recent performances.

**Bobby L. Parkman** of Silver Creek has received a Master of Divinity degree from Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

**Lonnie McCoy** of Laurel has received a Bachelor of Arts degree from New Orleans Seminary.

**Jerry V. Roberson** of Can-

tonment, Fla., has received the Bachelor of General Studies degree from New Orleans Seminary. He is the son of Jim and Jeanette Roberson of Silver Creek.

**Joel Alan Brister** of Bogue Chitto has received the Bachelor of General Studies degree from New Orleans Seminary.



**Calvary Church, Canton**, recently presented a perfect attendance pin to 6-month-old Blake Gill (center), son of Tammy and Ronnie Gill. Pat Cleveland (right) received a pin for one and a half years' perfect attendance. Lynn Wood (left) is Sunday School director.

## Staff Changes

**David Norris** has resigned **Good Hope Church**, Louisville, to become pastor of White Oak Church near Raleigh.



**West Shady Norris Grove Church**, Webster County, has called **Rick W. Holloway** as pastor. A Mississippian, Holloway goes to West Shady Grove Church from the Jasper, Ala., area.

**Jonathan D. Kittrell** assumed the duties of **BSU director intern** at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College-Perkinston on Aug. 1. He is associate pastor of Beacon Church in Hattiesburg. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary. He is presently working on an Ed. D. at New Orleans Seminary. His address is P.O. Box 327, Perkinston, MS 39573.



**Liberty Church, Mississippi Association**, has called **Martin Hayden** as pastor effective July 31. A native of Summit, he is a graduate of William Carey Col-

lege and New Orleans Seminary and is working on a degree at Southern Seminary. His previous place of service was First Church, Fulton.

**Michael C. Routon**, a native of Arkansas, assumed the pastorate of **Green's Creek Church** on July 1. He previously served Freney Church, Carthage.

**Old Hebron Church** (Covington-Jeff Davis Association) has called **Randy Gardner** as pastor, effective June 17. A native of Bassfield, Gardner is a student at New Orleans Seminary.

**Macedonia Church, Brookhaven**, has called **Robert M. Robinson** of Raymond as minister of youth. He previously served Learned Church. A graduate of Mississippi College, Robinson currently attends Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson. Robert Perry is pastor.



**Custom Church Interiors, Inc.**

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## NOBTS will offer preview of materials

A preview of the Southern Baptist Convention's 1994 Winter Bible Study materials on **Galatians**, **A Call to Freedom** will be offered by New Orleans Seminary on Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Argile Smith, assistant professor of preaching, and Thomas Strong, assistant professor of theological studies, will lead the interactive presentation on the material.

Cost is \$35 if pre-registered by Sept. 2.

Contact the Office of Continuing Education, New Orleans Seminary, (504) 282-4455, ext. 3260, for more information.



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## Revival Dates

**Pelahatchie (Rankin):** Aug. 21-14; Sunday, 11 a.m.; dinner on grounds, noon; Mon.-Wed., 7 a.m. with continental breakfast, and 7 p.m.; Mon., 6 p.m., teen night; Tues., 6 p.m., children's night; Wed., pot luck supper, 6 p.m.; Mike Glenn, evangelist; Scott Adkins, Jackson, music.

**Mt. Zion (Clarke):** Interfaith witness conference; Aug. 21-24; Sunday, 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Billy Brumfield, Quitman, evangelist; Mike McIlwain, music; Clay Chancellor, pastor.

**Utica (Hinds-Madison):** Aug. 21-24; 7 p.m. nightly; Billy Smith, Memphis, evangelist; Judy Walker, music; John Ed Snell, pastor.

**Grace Chapel (Monroe):** Aug. 21-26; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Don Sparks, (Lee) evangelist; Jim Kyle, music; James R. Hutcherson, pastor.

**Horseshoe, Tchula:** Aug. 21-24; 7 p.m.; Kenneth Kelly, Tupelo, evangelist; Sean Tutor, pastor.

**First, Durant:** Aug. 21-25; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Barry Corbett, Kosciusko, evangelist; Laverne Pickett, Ackerman, music; Jerry Bishop, pastor.

**D'Lo (Simpson):** Aug. 21; 11 a.m.; covered dish in fellowship hall at noon; J.L. Layton, Braxton, guest speaker; James Smith, Mendenhall, music; Robert Sones, pastor.

**Oak Grove, Smithdale:** Aug. 21; 11 a.m.; covered dish in fellowship hall at noon; afternoon singing and no night services; D. Ray Watts, Livingston, La., guest speaker; Kingdom singers, Summit, guest singers.

**Bethel (Copiah):** Aug. 28; Allen Stephens, director of missions, Rankin Association, guest speaker; dinner served following morning service; afternoon concert by Billy and Dondri Mangum; Bob Mack, pastor.

**Euclatubba, Saltillo:** Aug. 21; 11 a.m.; noon covered dish dinner;

**Hickory (Newton):** Sept. 10-14; services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sat., 5:30 p.m., fish fry; Doc and Connie Spurlin, Batesville, Ark., evangelists; Rodney Anderson, pastor.

**Lake Washington First, Glen Allan:** Aug. 21-25; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; Jim Hill, Melvin, Ala., evangelist; The Hill Family, music; Jimmy McLendon, pastor.

**Magee's Creek, Jayess:** Aug. 24-28; 7 nightly; Sunday, 11 a.m.; evangelists: Wed., Clarke Stewart; Thurs., John Merck; Fri., Allen Celoria; Sat. and Sunday, Donnie Guy; different music group each night; Max Parris, pastor.

**Oak Grove, Shubuta:** Aug. 21, homecoming, 11 a.m. worship followed by lunch, gospel music at 1:30 p.m.; revival through Aug. 24, 7 nightly; Roy McHenry, Aberdeen, evangelist; Donna Long, music; Billy Whitaker, pastor.

**Wheeler Grove (Alcorn):** Aug. 21-24; regular Sunday services; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Junior Hill, Hartsell, Ala., evangelist; The Heisman Quartet, special music; Kara Blackard, pastor.

## Homecomings

afternoon singing with The Ministers, 1; no night service; John Hearn, guest speaker, pastor.

**Arkadelphia, Bailey:** Aug. 21; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11; lunch in fellowship hall, 12:15; afternoon singing with the Disciples Quartet, 2; no night service; Carless Evans, guest speaker; Butch Knight, pastor.

**Bethany, Jasper:** Aug. 21; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11; lunch in fellowship hall; afternoon service, 1:30; Walter Johnson, guest speaker; Eddie Brady, pastor.

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## Just for the Record

### MBMC offers programs

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center (MBMC) is offering the following programs:

Intentional Loving and Laughing. 6 p.m. Aug. 25. 973-3180.

Breast Self-Exam. 6 p.m. Aug. 18 (meets monthly). 973-3180.

Breast Cancer support group (meets monthly). 968-3090.

Living Thru Cancer. 7 p.m. Aug. 23 (meets bi-monthly). 968-3090.

Childbirth class. Begins Aug. 30 (three/six weeks). 973-3180.

Childbirth refresher (three/six weeks). 973-3180.

Breastfeeding (meets monthly). 973-3180.

CPR for Infants and Children (meets weekly). 973-3180.

Pediatric Pre-Op. 6 p.m. each Monday.

Post-Polio support group. Aug. 27 (meets monthly). 968-1766.

RTS for parents who have experienced lost pregnancy (meets monthly). 968-3090.

Lupus support group (meets monthly). 968-1712.

Helping Others, Providing Empathy. 6 p.m. Aug. 18 (meets monthly). 968-3090.

Arthritis seminar/luncheon (meets monthly). 968-1766.

Asthma-non (meets monthly). 353-6262.

Caregivers Awareness/Resource/Education (meets weekly). 968-1712.

### Immanuel marks 50th

Immanuel Church, Natchez, will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Aug. 20. The church has planned a homecoming service on Aug. 21 which will include a noon luncheon.

Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will deliver the sermon during morning worship at 11 a.m.

Following the luncheon, the 1:30 p.m. worship will feature messages by former pastors Allen Johnson and Edsol Wells, and the presentation of special recognition certificates from the Governor's Office and the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission.

Mary Betts, soloist from Nashville, will provide music for both services. Jim Hill is pastor.

### FBC Yazoo winds up 150

First Church, Yazoo City, will conclude its sesquicentennial celebration with a homecoming on Aug. 21.

During the morning worship, which begins at 11 a.m., the sanctuary choir will perform a commissioned anthem by Gayden Sykes, church organist and writer/arranger for the Baptist Sunday School Board's Genevox Music. James F. Yates, pastor emeritus, will deliver the morning message.

First Church's "Churchman of the Year" will be announced during that service, followed by a covered dish luncheon in the activities building. At 1:30 p.m., there will be special music by the Yates family.

David Raddin is pastor.

### Missionary News

Karl and Peggy Wallace, missionaries to Colombia, are on the field (address: Apartado Aereo 51687, Bogota, Colombia). Born in Magee, he lived most of his life in Jackson. She is the former Peggy Vaughn of Jackson.

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Highland Church, Vicksburg, recently recognized its Mission Friends and Girls in Action in a service with the theme "Just a Closer Walk." Mission Friends pictured, left to right, (top photo) are: David Cochran, Brooke Henley, Ryan Richardson, Haley Boyd, and Benjamin Breazeale. Leaders are Gwen Trimble and Marsha Henley. GAs are (middle photo, first row): Keri Hodnett, Andrea Jennings, Mandy Ellis, Krystal Cochran, Erin Woerner; (back row) Robin Herrington, leader, Brittany Breazeale, Alexandra Henley, Leigh Ann VanDevender, Lauren Newton, Marla Richardson, Amanda Gettinger; (bottom photo, front row): Melanie Heard, Jennifer Jennings, Laura Beth Steen, Jana Jacobson, Amy Binns; (back row) Joyce Shinn, leader, Tracy Gordon, Kayla Conrad, Melanie Herrington, Kayla Greenlee, and Jessica Rickles.

Cary Church, Cary, will host Cecil Blackwood and the Blackwood Brothers on Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. A love offering will be taken. Perry Perrett is pastor of Cary Church.

Handsboro Church, Gulfport, will host the Brad Jones Family Music Evangelists in its morning and evening worship services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., on Aug. 21. Love offerings will be taken.

Bethlehem Church, Ackerman, will host the Kevin Spencer

Family of Shelby, Ohio, on Aug. 21 at 11 a.m. Jimmy Flake is pastor. The Spencer Family, along with the Green Family, will conduct a gospel sing at Leesburg Church, Morton, also on Aug. 21, at 6:45 p.m. Love offerings will be taken.

The Mississippi Puppetry Guild will hold its annual meeting Aug. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Eudora Welty Library in Jackson. The non-profit organization offers information on workshops, performances, and consultations. For more information contact Hilda Faye Hill at (601) 932-2751.

Mississippi College will offer a series of reviews to aid students preparing for the upcoming ACT testing. Review sessions will be on Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, and 15. For further details, contact the Division of Continuing Education at (601) 925-3264.

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Osyka Church (Pike) recently held a recognition service for members of its Girls in Action and Acteens organizations. GAs participating (top picture) were: Katherine Cutrer, Megan Gill, Lacey Morris, Lana Schilling, Toni Schilling, Tiffany Strickland, Abigail Wall, Elizabeth Wall, Krystal Wall, Suzanna Adams, Beverly Erwin, Holly Ott, Crystal Schilling, Amy Terrel, and Amanda Wall. Acteens receiving crowns were (bottom photo) Angela Hoff, Jennifer Simmons, and Lou Ellen Williams.



First Church, Gautier, recently recognized Acteens Allison Felton (left) and Christy Siedell upon their completion of the requirements for queen with a scepter. Acteen leaders are Reba Koski and Francelle Sanderford. Billy Williams is pastor.

### Host a foreign exchange student.



Katarina from Sweden is one of many international students waiting to hear from an American host family. Exchange students from 22 countries will arrive this summer to spend a high school year in the U.S. All EF Foundation students speak English, are fully insured and bring their own spending money. Please open your home and your heart - and show your family the world!

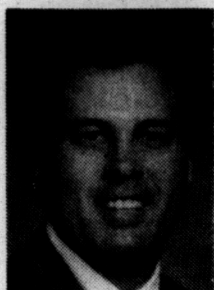
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## Uniform Love the Lord your God



By Richard Bradley  
Deuteronomy 6

When Jesus was asked to choose what he considered to be the greatest of all the commandments he chose the one revealed in Deut. 6:4-5: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (KJV). Jesus understood that if we truly love the Lord with all of our heart, soul, and strength then we will have no trouble in loving our neighbor as ourselves.

**God's exhortation to obey (vv. 1-2).** Moses reported that he had been instructed by God to teach the people God's commandments so they would fear God and that their lives might be prolonged as a result of keeping these commandments.

Through knowing the commandments of God, we come to know God and to respect and honor him for who he is. We stand in awe of him and love him because we recognize his great love for us.

Moses further reported that if the people honored God by keeping his commandments, God would honor his people by lengthening their days upon the earth. God's people were to do more than merely state their reverence for God, they were to prove it by their willingness to keep his commandments.

**God's demand for exclusive devotion (vv. 3-5).** God's people were instructed to "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (NIV). This injunction represents a stern warning to God's people that they should guard against letting other devotions and loyalties crowd God out of their lives. God demands first place in our hearts and lives because only he has a right to do so, he alone is deserving of that place.

**God's demand for the Hebrews' remembrance (vv. 6-9).** God told the Hebrews that his commandments were to continually dwell in their hearts (v. 6). If you were to take a general survey among God's people today, asking them if they loved the Word of God, most would invariably respond in the affirmative. However, if you were to further quiz them on the amount of time they spent reading and studying God's Word, most would reveal by their honest responses that their devotion to God's revealed truth was fleeting at best.

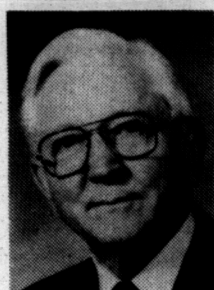
God commanded his people to keep his commandments ever before them. A time of daily Bible reading and Bible study is essential for God's people. We will not, cannot grow as Christians without the Bible as our daily source of guidance and inspiration. Our lives will either be filled with the things of God or the things of this world. As Jesus told us, a life can be swept clean but if left empty, that person is in a dangerous position. Devotion to the Word will keep us from the world or devotion to the things of the world will keep us from the Word of God.

**God's warning that his people should not forget him (vv. 10-13).** God's people were headed for a land which was flowing with milk and honey. They were to inherit a prosperous land which they would not have to work to make prosperous. There would be homes which they had not built and wells they had not dug. Wonderful! How much more blessed could a people be?

God warned the people, however, that there was real danger lurking in such a place as this. In the wilderness there was the pillar of fire by night and the pillar of cloud by day to lead the people in their journeys. In the morning there was manna from heaven and in the evening there was meat from the hand of God. All of these were visible reminders of the presence of God in the camp and his daily participation in the lives of his people. Once settled in this land flowing with milk and honey, all of these things would be taken away. The people would have only the promises of God, their memories, and the oral traditions which they were to pass on to their children. Of course, God would still be involved in the lives of his people, but there would not always be spectacular daily reminders of his presence. In remembering God and honoring him, the people would be blessed. In forgetting God and failing to serve him only, the people would be forsaken. Over the years to come both would occur. A warning to the wise!

Bradley is pastor, Handsboro Church, Gulfport.

## Bible Book Righteous vs. wicked



By Raymond Kolb  
Proverbs 10:1 — 15:33

Chapter 10 begins the second of three groups of proverbs attributed to Solomon. Many of these are short proverbs which seem to "stand alone," and need to be interpreted without reference to those immediately preceding or following them. In some cases there may be other proverbs separated from these by some verses or chapters, but which say almost the same thing. In some cases it is very helpful to group these according to their teachings. We find some of this in some of the focal passages in our lesson today.

**Results of righteous and wicked living (10:1-11:31).** Passages found in 10:1,13-14 indicate how language used by an individual may reveal his character. Others may be blessed as they hear a righteous person speak and harmed by the language of the wicked. What kind of language do you want your children to hear?

"The wages of the righteous" in verse 16 seem to be a contrast from "the wealth of the wicked" in verse 15. The amount of wealth is not nearly so important as how it is obtained. Wealth wrongly obtained is more likely to bring trouble than peace.

Verse 17 shows the importance of accepting discipline with the right attitude. It can be a great blessing. To ignore it can bring suffering.

Disgrace often follows the arrogance of one who is filled with pride (11:2). An attitude of sincere humility is always welcome. Verse 5, along with those verses immediately following it, emphasizes the importance of a good reputation. When one is known as an honest man, others trust him. If he is known as a wicked man, they do not. Any business dealing with him will be influenced by his reputation as an honest or dishonest man. Verse 28 emphasizes this again.

**Good and evil practices (12:1-13:25).** "Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge" (12:1a). A young student who refuses to believe that two plus two equals four just because he first said that two plus two equals three, and refuses any correction, is not likely to become a great mathematician. Would you like him as your banker? That may sound stupid. To refuse God's correction really is stupid (12:1b). The next two verses may be related to this one, for by accepting God's discipline we receive his favor and become well-established, which cannot happen through wickedness nor by refusing to accept God's correction.

"The way of a fool seems right to him" (12:15a). He has convinced himself so completely that he is right that he refuses to listen to any advice. He can only suffer the consequences. Another verse in the focal passage related to the wise and the foolish is found in 13:20. It states that "He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm." The company we keep day by day certainly has its influence on our lives. Combining verses 5 and 25 of this same chapter would seem to imply that the righteous hate falsehood but eat well and that the wicked bring shame and disgrace to themselves and go hungry.

**Teachings on wisdom and folly (14:1-35).** "Fools mock at making amends for sin, but goodwill is found among the upright" (14:9). The Revised Standard Version translates it as follows: "God scorns the wicked, but the upright enjoy his favor." Both translations seem to help to clarify the meaning. You can't fool God nor buy him off. Insincere offerings or worship have no value, but sincerity is recognized and rewarded. Verse 12 would seem to add that a man may fool himself, but not God, and must suffer the consequences.

Now, let me call attention to some of my favorites in the book which are not included in the focal passages. "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people" (14:34). "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger" (15:1). "The Lord detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but the prayer of the upright pleases him" (15:8). "The Lord abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight" (11:1). I once sat in a warehouse talking with its owner. There were two identical-looking scales on the floor near us. I walked over to one of them to check my weight, but the owner said, "No, use the other one. That one is for buying."

Kolb is a retired missionary living in Clinton.

## Life and Work Results of giving



By Ruth Allen  
2 Corinthians 9

Giving is an essential part of the gospel. God loves a "cheerful giver." The word used for "cheerful" is derived from the Greek word for "hilarious." Some people show a very painful expression when they give; others display an expression of cheerfulness, for they know all gifts are from God. They know the first result of giving in the name of Jesus is a happy, cheerful attitude. Many other satisfying results are apparent as giving is done cheerfully in honor of God. The Scripture passage examines some of these results.

**God multiplies the resources of the giver (v. 10).** A man who grew richer, even though he gave generously to worthy causes, was asked how that was possible. He replied, "I do not know. I just keep shoveling it out, and God keeps shoveling it back in. I guess his shovel is bigger than mine." This may not always happen in each act of giving, but there is overwhelming indication that the more one gives, the more one has to give back to God. I personally can attest to that fact! You simply cannot outgive God. Paul emphatically states "that God increases the harvest of righteousness."

This truth was effectively borne out in the life of the late Rosalee Mills Appleby, missionary to Brazil. During her active retirement in Canton, caring people often would offer her a soft drink or other items which would add pleasure to her life. She always declined with these words, "I appreciate your offer, but would prefer the cash equivalent to share the gospel in Brazil." Only God alone could ever know the harvest of righteousness being reaped from the actions of this godly woman. She practiced the dictum: "It is better to give than to receive."

**Generosity promotes thanksgiving to God (v. 11).** The psalmist has said, "O, give thanks unto the Lord for he is good." The thanks mankind offers to God is proportionate to what the individual gives in God's name. The more one gives, the more thanks one can offer to our merciful and generous God.

**An overflow in many expressions of thanks (v. 12).** Dear Abby published a letter from a woman in her mid-40s. The woman wrote that she had a wonderful husband, a nice home, and three lovely children. What was her problem, with so many apparent blessings? She was unable to say, "Thank you." Her parents were perfectionists who always found fault. No matter how well she may have done, they always pointed out the flaws. Naturally, she was not permitted to say, "Thank you" under such scrutiny. Our perfect God does not allow imperfections to flaw the performance in giving. He says, "Well done, good and faithful servants." When hearing those words, the heart overflows with love and thanksgiving to God. When one faithfully gives, God completely fills the life fully and also overflowing!

**People praise and glorify God (v. 13).** The lives of habitual givers become a perpetual doxology of praise to God and an expression to his glory. Generous and giving Christians are unselfish people. Therefore, God is glorified; and voices are lifted in praise to an unselfish and loving God, who is revered, as an example of giving through his love for sinners.

**Givers are placed on recipients' prayer lists (v. 14).** As a student at Southwestern Seminary, my systematic theology professor vividly impressed me with this statement: "The single greatest thing you can do for others is to remember them in prayer." One may wish to avoid the prayer lists compiled for those suffering, experiencing tragedy, or being subjected to grief, but there are other prayers offered, in which to be included would be an honor.

Years ago I attended a morning worship service where an offering was taken to assist a young woman hospitalized because of injuries sustained from an automobile accident. During the service the church had special prayer for her, and caring friends took the offering to her that afternoon. At the evening service she sent these words of love to the congregation: "I appreciate your monetary gift of love to me. I thank God for each of you. I will keep you in my prayers." Recipients of giving will thank God for the giver.

Resolve to be unselfish in giving. Begin with what you have, and honor God with your giving.

Allen lives in Jackson.



# THE VILLAGE VIEW

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## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Mr. Alex Young  
Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Barnett  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Carleton  
Mrs. Mary Lee Foster  
Mr. & Mrs. H. G. Shattles  
(to be continued)

## Baptist Children's Village staff receive Service Pins



Mr. Mike Vance (right photo, at right) and Mr. Ken Robinson (left photo, at right) both



of our Maintenance Department, India Nunnery Campus, received their 1-year pins.



Mr. Henry Glaze (left photo, center) received his 20-year service pin. Mr. Glaze is Executive Director, Programs. Pictured with Mr. Glaze is Mrs. Alabel Wiser (left) and Executive Director Ronny Robinson (right). Mr. Rhudy Cole (right photo, at right), who drives transportation for our children, received his 15-year service pin. That's a lot of trips to school and the doctor's office, etc.



Mrs. Jackie Jackson (below, right), Financial Secretary on our India Nunnery Campus, was presented with her 10-year service pin by her supervisor Mrs. JoAnn Ginn (left).

Congratulations to each of you and THANK YOU for your dedication and loyalty to this ministry to God's children.



(to be continued)



# capsules

**"1,995 IN 95" CHURCH STARTING GOAL SET: GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)** — A goal of starting 1,995 Southern Baptist mission-type churches in 1995 — almost 500 more than last year — was announced during the July home missions conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Conference Center. "The Father alone can make this kind of challenge a reality," said Charles Chaney, Home Mission Board vice president for church extension. Last year, Southern Baptists started 1,500 churches, an average of more than four a day. The 1995 goal will require 5.4 new churches per day and approximately one new church for every 20 existing churches. The 1,995 in '95 campaign involves no new strategy but focuses attention to existing plans, Chaney said. Current trends in church starting involve using lay leaders and a varied funding approach, other conference leaders said. The Bold Mission Thrust goal for church starting is 50,000 churches by the year 2000. As of Dec. 31, 1993, Southern Baptists had 46,712 churches and mission-type churches.

**HOBBS WILL RECEIVE RELIGIOUS HERITAGE MEDAL: ST. LOUIS (BP)** — Baptist leader Herschel H. Hobbs will receive the Gold Medal award from Religious Heritage of America during its 44th Annual National Awards Program Oct. 8 in Atlanta. The Gold Medal recognizes 50 years of service in the ministry. Hobbs will be among 10 people to receive various awards from the organization, founded in 1951 with the purpose of helping America reclaim its founding religious values. During its 44-year history, the organization has recognized more than 600 individuals as role models of exemplary leadership, including Billy Graham, Norman Vincent Peale, Paul Harvey, and Chuck Swindoll. Hobbs, who has penned more than 100 books, is pastor emeritus of First Church, Oklahoma City, where he served from 1958-76. A former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, he was chairman of the committee that drafted the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement of Southern Baptist beliefs.

**MCKINNEY RETIRES AFTER 44 YEARS AT SWBTS: FORT WORTH (BP)** — When James McKinney and his wife Elizabeth rented a truck and moved to Fort Worth from Louisiana in 1950, they still didn't know if McKinney had the job he had interviewed for at Southwestern Seminary. The couple stored their things in a rental house and drove back to Louisiana to await a contract. A few anxiety-filled days later, it arrived, marking the beginning of McKinney's 44-year Southwestern music career. Hired as composer-in-residence, McKinney began teaching theory and voice; six years later he was appointed director of the school of sacred music. When the name changed to the school of church music the next year, his title changed to dean. McKinney retired from Southwestern July 31. Scotty Gray, the seminary's executive vice president, will serve as acting dean of the school of church music until a new dean is chosen.

## Devotional

### Birth a church, not bury one

By Berniece Gardner

KANAB, Utah (BP) — Yesterday, I went to a funeral. Victory Church in Kanab, Utah, was laid to rest.

The services were conducted by a lawyer from St. George, Utah. There was no music, no Scripture, no sermon, no mourners.

After the opening prayer, the lawyer explained certain legal requirements must be met to dissolve the legal entity that was Victory Church.

A motion was made to declare Victory Church disbanded and to elect the chairman of trustees legal representative to sign all papers for the disbandment of the church. A second came very quickly. The seven members of the church voted. Six were in favor, one abstained.

A motion was made for the disposal of assets. The building was to be sold. The buyer was one of the visitors. The motion was seconded. All in favor? Unanimous. No dissension.

A motion to adjourn. All in favor, rise. Amen.

Victory Church no longer exists.

What does it mean to dissolve? Is the church put in a test tube and covered with sulfuric acid? Has the church been through such a bad time that it is destroyed?

Disbanded. The cord that binds church members together is gone. No one is a part of that "group."

As I sat at this funeral, I remembered the birth of this church. It was a joyous occasion. Dedicated Christian men and women started this church. They gave sacrificially of themselves, their time, and their money. Utah-Idaho Southern Baptists had a part in this church. Friends from across the South gave to the building.

When a Christian dies, there is the certainty of resurrection. There is no hope of life after death for Victory Church. Is there a witness that will live? Did this church die in vain?

I do not know the answer. I only know that a funeral for a church is a very sad event. My heart is crying. I am in mourning.

I much prefer a birthing.

Gardner is the wife of Bruce Gardner, interim director of missions for Utah's Color Country Association.

# Goat herder, valley of churches among his missions highlights

FORT WORTH (BP) — In a yellowing photograph on the wall behind Bud Fray's desk at Southwestern Seminary, a large group of half-naked Africans are huddled in the shadow of a small airplane's wing, listening to a missionary in a blue hat. In the foreground, a dirty young boy with a long walking stick also listens intently to the missionary's message.

As photographs go, it's rather ordinary. Yet to Fray, who served as missionary to Southern Africa 28 years, it is anything but ordinary.

The young missionary in the picture is none other than Fray himself, and the boy is a blind goat herder named Ferdinand. "He would always herd his goats around the airplane and listen to the gospel," the soft-spoken Fray said. "His heart was open to Christ and he became a believer."

Later, when Ferdinand enrolled in a school for the blind, his teachers were astounded. "This little guy, way down there a hundred miles from civilization, tested at the genius level," Fray said. "I got him a braille Bible which he learned to read. He memorized the whole gospel of John."

Fray's relationship with a blind genius goat herder is just part of a lifetime adventure in missions which began in a chapel service in 1956 at the Fort Worth seminary, where Fray was a student.

Baker James Cauthen, then

president of the Foreign Mission Board, was speaking during Southwestern's missions emphasis week. One of Cauthen's statements during the invitation was to let Jesus be so real as Lord that he could say anything to you and send you anywhere he wants you to go, Fray said.

"God's finger was right on me. I knew without a shadow of a doubt that missions was the will of God for my life."

One year later, Fray and his wife Jane were in Harare, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), learning the Shona language. "The African people were the most beautiful, peace-loving, engaging people on the face of the earth," Fray said. "I became absolutely enthralled with learning their language and talking heart-to-heart with them about Jesus."

It was that communication with the people that Fray recalls as his greatest experience on the mission field. "We went into a valley where there were no believers and no Baptist churches, and we were looking at perhaps 10,000 square miles and 250,000 people. In eight short years, 42 little Baptist churches started in that valley and thousands came to Christ," he said. "Nothing will ever compare to that in terms of fulfillment and joy and seeing heaven come down to earth and seeing entire villages transformed by the power of God."

The power Fray experienced in that remote valley in Southern Africa 30 years ago has also been very evident in his classes at Southwestern, where he returned in 1989 to serve as professor of missions and spiritual formation until he retired to Knoxville, Tenn., in May 1994.

"Every day, my heart beat with excitement as I went to missiology because I knew the Lord was going to be there. God met with that class; it's the only way I can explain it," he said.

That expectation of God moving in the lives of his students is what Fray recalls as his fondest experience as a professor, both at Southwestern and at Ouachita University, Arkadelphia, Ark., where he served as chairman of the religion department from 1985-89.

"I have absolutely loved the involvement with the students as global awareness hits them and they become aware of the heart of God for the whole world," he said with a gleam in his eye.

He displays that yellowing photo of Ferdinand as a reminder of what God can do in the lives of people. "He's just a little ragged boy disguised as a goat herder. But within was a genius and God knew that," Fray said. "It shows me the potential of students and the mighty things God might do through the most unsuspecting person."

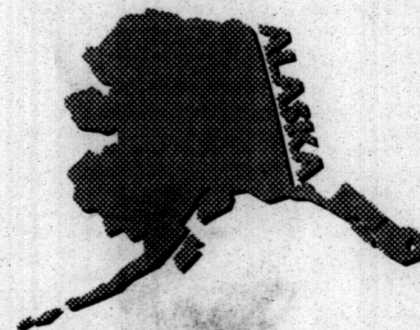
## Alaska Baptists report 13.3% CP gain

SOLDOTNA, Alaska (BP) — The Alaska Baptist Convention met in annual session Aug. 9-10 at College Heights Church in Soldotna, Alaska.

The convention's 1995 Cooperative Program budget of \$574,204 was approved by 172 messengers present. The receipts are 13.3% ahead of last year's CP income. The percentage of the convention's CP designated for Southern Baptist Convention causes remains at 33%. A record Lottie Moon Offering for foreign missions was received this year, and messengers were given an optimistic report that the Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions also may be a record for the convention.

Elected as new president and

vice president of the Alaska Convention, respectively, were Tim



Clark, pastor of First Church in Palmer, and Bob Jones, pastor of Grandview Church in Anchorage. Dean Blankenship, pastor of Southeast Islands Ministries in Thorne, was elected second vice president.

Executive Director Bill G. Duncan announced his retirement date of March 31, 1995, but he will leave Alaska the end of February, taking vacation time. He and his wife Betty will reside in Tucson, Ariz.

The convention is gearing up to begin its 50th anniversary celebration at next year's convention, to be held at First Church in Anchorage Aug. 8-9. The celebration will culminate with a Jubilee Celebration at the 1996 convention.

## Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx  
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YPYLS QCMY QIGUH VOCFXYNB BYL BIOMY: VON  
NBY ZIIFCMB JFOWEYNB CN XIQH QCNB BYL  
BUHXM.

JLIPYLVN ZIOLNYYH: IHY

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Four: Eighteen.

Baptist Record

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August 10, 1994

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